



PeopleFirst Partnership 2017 Legislative Priorities for City/County Joint Agenda

PreK Quality Improvement. Support initiatives that strengthen the quality of classroom teaching and learning in Tennessee's VPK program.

K12 Accountability. Support strong accountability framework that ensures aligned assessments and use of student performance data in measuring teacher and leader performance.

- **Assessments related.** Maintain a commitment to rigorous assessments of student progress, aligned with TN State Standards. It is essential that all students be assessed and that opt-out provisions are not permitted. Because TN Ready testing faltered on roll-out for the 2015-2016 school year, grades 3-8 were not assessed. The TN Department of Education has procured a new vendor for the 2016-2017 school year.
- **ESSA.** Every Student Succeeds Act is the most recent reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The TN Department of Education will be developing the ESSA implementation plan for the state. We believe implementation of the accountability plan should be thoughtful and student based, with emphasis on assessments for all students and explicit focus on ensuring that every classroom is led by a highly effective teacher.
- **Continue use of Teacher Effectiveness data.** Continue to use student growth to measure teacher effectiveness and maintain a commitment to monitoring teacher evaluation as it informs professional development.

Defend the school turnaround work. The Achievement School District, i-Zone schools and public charters must be maintained to continue the momentum for increasing academic achievement across Tennessee. The operation of turn around schools must be transparent to the citizens of Tennessee.

Teacher Preparation Reform. Support the State Board of Education and DOE to dramatically transform the teacher pipeline in TN. This includes improving the licensure assessment system, improving the quality of the student admissions processes, regularly assessing performance of Educator Preparation Programs and increasing access and transparency to data.

TCAT-CTE Dual Enrollment Programs. Support expansion of TCAT-CTE Dual enrollment programs across the state.

Guns on Campus. Oppose any amendments that would allow students to carry guns on campus, and support investments to ensure campus safety.

